

ELDER REFUGEE SERVICES SYMPOSIUM FRESNO/MERCED COUNTIES

Networking

1. *What is it that you wish to achieve in the next year?*
Eliminate/decrease duplication of service and promote best practices between counties.
2. *How do you propose to achieve it?*
Incorporate networking processes into the organization's mission statement.
3. *What steps should be taken to that end?*
 - a. Hold periodic conferences for potential collaborators.
 - b. Create a website, brochures, newsletters, periodic press releases and mailing lists, and encourage the same from other service providers.

Advocacy

1. *What is it that you wish to achieve in the next year?*
Increase the visibility of services we provide and increase the awareness of unmet needs in order to gain support (monetary, volunteer, etc.)
2. *How do you propose to achieve it?*
Establish a structured advocacy plan at multiple levels: Elders, agency, local officials, regional, state and federal.
3. *What steps should be taken to that end?*
 - a. Present the needs and achievements of the elders to the mainstream community.
 - b. Commit to meet regularly with elected officials and the media to publicize needs and achievements.
 - c. Create a structured volunteer program with the community based organizations (CBOs).

Funding

1. *What is it that you wish to achieve in the next year?*
Receive more funding (look for more long term stable funding)
2. *How do you propose to achieve it?*
Approach private foundations for funding.
3. *What steps should be taken to that end?*
 - a. Become more visible in the community.
 - b. Collaborate with existing successful organizations.
 - c. Join community forums, groups, advisory panels, etc.
 - d. Connect with the education institutions.
 - e. Meet with elected officials.